

Teal and weighed 1lb. 4oz. when shot. The specimen was skinned by Mr. F. Ludlow, and was sent to the British Museum (Natural History) for identification, where it was determined as a cross between a Teal, *Anas crecca* and a Baikal Teal, *A. formosa*. No details were given as to the characters which led to this decision.

This specimen should be compared with the plate (Pl. XX) in *Nicoll's Birds of Egypt* (Meinertzhagen, 1930), of a wild-shot hybrid Pintail  $\times$  Teal from Ghatta, in the Egyptian delta, on 26th January, 1923, and now in the Giza Zoological Museum. This, incidentally, was also originally identified as a hybrid Teal  $\times$  Baikal Teal. The late Lord Rothschild, however, expressed the opinion that it was more likely to be a cross between a Pintail and Teal.

The specimen from Kashmir agrees fundamentally with the coloured illustration (by the late George Lodge) referred to above. The slight differences are firstly that the facial bimaculation in the Egyptian specimen is complete and the cheek patches are paler. This pattern was no doubt responsible for the misidentification as to the Baikal Teal parentage. At that time of course it had not been realised that this basic bimaculated facial pattern does occur in other hybrids of the Anatidae. Secondly, the breast spotting is more defined in the Egyptian specimen. This degree of variation in the bimaculated facial pattern has been shown to occur in hybrids between the Wigeon, *A. penelope* and the Shoveler, *A. chipeata* (Harrison, 1964).

### SUMMARY

A hybrid duck from Kashmir has been re-examined and its parentage is considered to be Pintail  $\times$  Teal, rather than Teal  $\times$  Baikal Teal as originally recorded. This view is supported by comparison with a plate showing a Pintail  $\times$  Teal from Egypt.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We acknowledge with gratitude the loan of the Kashmir hybrid specimen by Mr. J. D. Macdonald, formerly in charge of the Bird Room, British Museum (Natural History).

For the photographs our thanks are due to Dr. Pamela Harrison, and for permission to reproduce the plate from *Nicoll's Birds of Egypt*, we acknowledge our gratitude to Dr. Theresa Clay.

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## The original name of the bustard *Eupodotis afra*

by R. K. Brooke and R. J. Dowsett

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The Black Knorhaan or Bustard of the arid parts of southern Africa is called *Eupodotis afra* in the two latest Lists (White, 1965; Clancey, 1965). Both

authors base their name on *Otis afra* Linnaeus 1766 *Syst. Nat.* 12th Edition I: 264. Peters (1934) points out that this name is spelt *atra*: both are Latin words meaning "black". C. W. Benson (*in litt.*) advises that the text is not well printed but that the letter used by the printer is an "f". *Otis atra* is no more than a misreading of a badly printed text and is to be regarded at the best as an unjustified emendation.

However, Linnaeus 1758 *Syst. Nat.* 10th Edition I: 155 describes *Otis afra* as "O(tis) nigra, dorso cinereo, auribus albis. Habitat in Aethiopia. I Burmannus. Maris rostrum & pedes flavi. Vertex cinereus. Alarum margo exterior albus. Femina tota cinerea, exceptis femoribus abdomineque atris.". This is a clear description of *E. afra* and mentions the most obvious distinguishing character, the white "ears" (auribus albis). It is also the wording used in the 12th Edition (C. W. Benson *in litt.*). We therefore conclude that the original description of *E. afra* is contained in Linnaeus' 10th Edition of his *Systema Naturae* in volume I on page 155 and that this reference should be cited as the original sources of the name as occasion arises. The explanation for this lapse, as for *Serinus alario* (L.) (Brooke, 1967), is probably that British ornithologists used to work from Linnaeus's 12th Edition and that when the 10th Edition was accepted as the basis of nomenclature this point was not checked.

We are obliged to C. W. Benson for consulting Linnaeus's 12th Edition on our behalf.

#### References:

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## Schioler's Dunlin in Eire

by Jeffery Harrison

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As yet, the occurrence of Schioler's Dunlin *Calidris alpina arctica*, the breeding population from north-eastern Greenland, has only been recognised in the British Isles as a passage migrant through south-eastern England, between the dates of 14th May-7th June and 7th July-17th September (Harrison and Harrison, 1967).

Although the winter quarters of this distinctive race of Dunlin are still unknown, it seemed highly unlikely that its migration route should be restricted to the eastern side of the British Isles, when it is well known that many waders from Greenland and Iceland migrate southwards to Ireland and beyond.

Between 27th September and 10th October, 1968, while in Counties Cork and Kerry, Eire, I paid special attention to this species, which was not particularly numerous, the largest party seen being forty in Co. Cork. Almost all which were seen were closely examined and seemed to be typical